

Message Text

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13
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 /018 W
----- 048363

R 191510Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1212
USIA WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BONN

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV

USIA/IEU

VOA/MUNICH

P&C LENINGRAD

USIS BONN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS, UR, US
SUBJECT: VISA SUPPORT

REF: (A) USIA 34715, (B) MOSCOW 18000, (C) MOSCOW 17999

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES INFO THAT OBOLENSKY'S APPLICATION NOT FOR
TDY TO EMBASSY. WE HAD ASSUMED PROCEDURE WOULD BE SAME AS FOR
ROSEN AND HOPKINS.

2. AS INDICATED REFTTEL C, WE FEARED THAT OBOLENSKY VISA APPLICATION
MIGHT CONFUSE SOVIETS AS TO OUR INTENTIONS AND/OR PROVIDE THEM WITH
EXCUSE TO GRANT OBOLENSKY VISA AND REFUSE HOPKINS. EMBASSY VIEWS
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SOVIET REFUSAL TO GRANT HOPKINS VISA A SERIOUS MATTER WHICH SHOULD

HAVE RECEIVED UNDIVIDED ATTENTION OF USIA AND DEPT.

3. EMBASSY FEARS APPEAR CONFIRMED BY CONVERSATION BETWEEN MFA/USA COUNSELOR FEDOSEYEV AND P&C COUNSELOR AT RECEPTION NOVEMBER 18. FEDOSEYEV SAID THAT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SOVIET APPROVAL, VISA APPLICATION FOR HOPKINS MUST BE SUPPORTED AT "VERY HIGH LEVEL AT SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON."

4. FEDOSEYEV WENT ON TO SAY THAT VISA APPLICATION FOR OBOLENSKY HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND "DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY PROBLEM." HE THEN ASKED EMBOFF IF OBOLENSKY WAS NOT A "SUBSTITUTE" FOR HOPKINS. P&C COUNSELOR REPLIED THIS NOT THE CASE; THAT HOPKINS AND OBOLENSKY WORK IN TWO ENTIRELY DIFFERENT DIVISIONS OF VOA.

5. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY WILL SUPPORT OBOLENSKY VISA. HOWEVER, WE STILL ADVISE DELAYING ARRIVAL UNTIL ABOUT DECEMBER 8. THIS WILL ALLOW COVERAGE OF BICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT, BUT WILL GIVE US MORE TIME TO CONCENTRATE ON HOPKINS' APPLICATION.

6. APPRECIATE DEPT/USIA VIEWS AND PROPOSED ACTION.
MATLOCK

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NNN

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